

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1, 4-7 and 9-20 are amended, as shown below. A complete listing of the claims in this case, with their status, is shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing apparatus ~~including~~ comprising:
a removable reservoir for containing liquid for dispensing from the apparatus;
a piezoelectric dispensing tube defining a bore in fluid communication with the reservoir; and
means for applying a vacuum and/or pressure to the contents of the reservoir when the reservoir is located in the apparatus.
2. (Original) A piezoelectric dispensing apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the reservoir defines an open top to allow liquids to be poured into the reservoir.
3. (Original) A piezoelectric dispensing apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein the top of the reservoir is flared outwardly.
4. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing apparatus as claimed in claim 3 wherein the means for applying a vacuum and/or pressure to the contents of the reservoir when the reservoir is located in the apparatus ~~includes~~ comprises a plunger ~~which is~~ shaped and configured to abut with and seal the top of the reservoir.
5. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing apparatus as claimed in claim 4 wherein the plunger ~~defines~~ comprises a through bore to permit the application of vacuum ~~and~~ or pressure to the reagent vessel through the bore.
6. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing apparatus as claimed in ~~any one of claims claim 4 to 5 including~~ comprising a seat for receiving the removable reservoir and means for moving the plunger up and down towards and away from the seat.

7. (Currently Amended) A reservoir assembly for containing liquid for dispensing from a piezoelectric dispensing device, the piezoelectric dispensing device ~~including~~ comprising a dispensing end and a non-dispensing end, ~~characterised by the assembly including~~ wherein the assembly comprises a first filter means and a second filter means.

8. (Original) A reservoir assembly as claimed in claim 7 wherein the second filter has a pore size smaller than the pore size of the first filter

9. (Currently Amended) A reservoir assembly as claimed in claim 7 ~~or claim 8~~ wherein the second filter is located between the reservoir and the non-dispensing end of the piezoelectric dispensing tube to prevent particulate matter collected on the underside of the reservoir from entering the tube.

10. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing device ~~including~~ comprising:
a reservoir for containing liquid ~~for dispensing to be dispensed~~ from the ~~apparatus defining~~
device, the reservoir comprising an open top and an outlet at ~~the~~ a base of the reservoir;

a filter ~~means~~ for filtering liquids passing through the outlet;

a piezoelectric dispensing tube defining a bore;

means for removably attaching the piezoelectric dispensing tube in fluid communication with the reservoir; ~~characterised by the attaching means comprising~~ a closure means disposed at the base of the reservoir ~~which closes~~ for closing the outlet of the reservoir ~~until~~ when the reservoir is not attached to a ~~removable secondary filter attached to a~~ the piezoelectric dispensing tube.

11. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing device as claimed in claim 10 ~~wherein~~
~~the base of the reservoir defines~~ further comprising an annular foot portion on which the base of the
reservoir ~~may be rested with~~ is positionable wherein the ~~valve~~ closure means is spaced from the surface on which the foot rests.

12. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing device as claimed in claim 11 ~~wherein~~
~~the reservoir defines~~ further comprising a handle attached to the reservoir.

13. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing device as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 10 to 12 wherein the closure means is a septum.

14. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing device as claimed in ~~any one of claims~~ claim 10 to 12 wherein the closure means is a valve.

15. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing device including:
a reservoir for containing liquid ~~for dispensing to be dispensed~~ from the device ~~defining and~~ comprising an open top and an outlet at ~~the~~ a base of the reservoir;
a filter extending across the outlet of the reservoir;
a secondary filter assembly removably attachable to the base of the reservoir, the secondary filter assembly defining a bore ~~which is~~ in fluid communication with the reservoir when the secondary filter assembly is attached thereto, the secondary filter assembly ~~defining~~ comprising means for removably attaching ~~the~~ a piezoelectric dispensing tube in fluid communication with the bore; and
~~characterised by~~
means for closing the outlet of the reservoir ~~until the reservoir is not attached to~~ when the removable secondary filter assembly is not attached to the reservoir.

16. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing device as claimed in claim 15 further ~~including~~ comprising a piezoelectric dispensing tube defining a bore attached to the outlet of the secondary filter assembly.

17. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing device as claimed in claim 15 ~~or 14~~ wherein the means for closing the outlet of the reservoir is a valve.

18. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing device as claimed in claim 15 12 or 16 wherein the means for closing the outlet of the reservoir are a septum and wherein a hollow needle for piercing the septum projects from the secondary filter assembly.

19. (Currently Amended) A piezoelectric dispensing apparatus comprising including a
piezoelectric dispensing device as claimed in any one of claims 10 to 19

a reservoir for containing liquid to be dispensed from the device, the reservoir comprising an
open top and an outlet at a base of the reservoir;

a filter for filtering liquids passing through the outlet;

a piezoelectric dispensing tube defining a bore and comprising means for removably attaching
the piezoelectric dispensing tube in fluid communication with the reservoir; and

a closure means disposed at the base of the reservoir for closing the outlet of the reservoir when
a removable secondary filter is not attached to the reservoir;

further including an apparatus defining a seat means for receiving the removable reservoir in the
apparatus, means for applying a vacuum ~~and/or~~ pressure to the contents of the reservoir ~~when the~~
~~reservoir is located in the apparatus~~ said applying means including comprising a plunger ~~which is~~
shaped and configured to abut with and seal the open top of the reservoir and which defines a through
bore to permit the application of vacuum ~~and~~ or pressure to the ~~reagent vessel~~ reservoir through the
bore, ~~and further including and means for moving the plunger being movable up and down towards~~
~~and/or away from~~ relative to the seat.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of dispensing fluid from a piezoelectric tube assembly,
the assembly comprising including a piezoelectric tube having a dispensing end and a non dispensing
end, the method comprising dispensing the fluid from a reservoir disposed in fluid communication with
the non-dispensing end of the piezoelectric tube.